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a third electronic module disposed within the second module, the third electronic module electrically connected to the first electronic module and to the second backplane;

a fourth electronic module disposed within the second module, the fourth electronic module electrically connected to the second electronic module and to the second backplane; and

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a switch/relay disposed within the second module and connected to the second backplane, the switch/relay adapted to selectively permit communication between the third electronic module and the second electronic module when there is a failure within the first electronic module.

12. (Once amended) A housing for an electronic system comprising:

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a first module comprising a first card cage;

a first backplane disposed within the first module;

first and second electronic modules disposed within the first card cage, each of the first and second electronic modules electrically connected to the first backplane;

a second module attached to the first module, the second module comprising a second backplane and a second card cage;

a third electronic module disposed within the second card cage, the third electronic module electrically connected to the first electronic module and to the second backplane;

a fourth electronic module disposed within the second card cage, the fourth electronic module electrically connected to the second electronic module and to the second backplane; and

a switch/relay disposed within the second card cage and connected to the second backplane, the switch/relay adapted to selectively permit communication

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between the third electronic module and the second electronic module when there is a failure within the first electronic module.

16. (Once amended) A method for modifying a housing containing a non-redundant cable modem termination system to add redundancy to the non-redundant cable modem termination system, the method comprising:

attaching a backplane to the housing;

attaching a card cage to the housing;

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inserting a first electronic module into the card cage for electrically connecting the first electronic module to the backplane and to a first electronic module of the non-redundant cable modem termination system;

inserting a second electronic module into the card cage for electrically connecting the second electronic module to the backplane and to a second electronic module of the non-redundant cable modem termination system;

inserting a switch/relay into the card cage for electrically connecting the switch/relay to the backplane, the switch/relay adapted to selectively permit communication between the first electronic module and the second electronic module of the non-redundant cable modem termination system when there is a failure within the first electronic module of the non-redundant cable modem termination system.

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Please add the following:

17. (New) The adaptive module of claim 1, wherein the active and backup first electronic modules are received in first slots within the card cage and circuit boards of the switch/relay are received in second slots of the card cage.

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18. (New) The housing of claim 6, wherein the switch relay is disposed within a card cage of the second module.

19. (New) The housing of claim 6, wherein the first module is a housing for a non-redundant cable modem termination system.

20. (New) The housing of claim 12, wherein the third and fourth electronic modules are received in first slots within the second card cage and circuit boards of the switch/relay are received in second slots of the second card cage.

21. (New) The housing of claim 12, wherein the first module is a housing usable for a non-redundant cable modem termination system.

22. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein inserting the first and second electronic modules into the card cage comprises inserting the first and second electronic modules into first slots of the card cage and inserting the switch/relay into the card cage comprises inserting circuit boards of the switch/relay into second slots of the card cage.

23. (New) The method of claim 16, further comprising electrically connecting a plurality of connectors of the first electronic module to remote equipment.

24. (New) The method of claim 16, wherein attaching the backplane to the housing comprises positioning the backplane so that the backplane is parallel to a backplane to which the first and second electronic modules of the non-redundant cable modem termination system are electrically connected.

25. (New) A method for manufacturing a housing for a redundant cable modem termination system, the method comprising:

forming a module having a first backplane, a first card cage, and first and second electronic modules disposed within the first card cage and electrically connected to the first backplane;

attaching a second backplane to the module;

forming a second card cage;

attaching the second card cage to the module;

inserting third and fourth electronic modules into the second card cage to electrically connect the third and fourth electronic modules to the second backplane and to respectively electrically connect the third and fourth electronic modules to the first and second electronic modules; and

inserting a switch/relay into the second card cage to electrically connect the switch/relay to the backplane, the switch/relay adapted to selectively permit communication between the second and third electronic modules when there is a failure within the first electronic module.

26. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein forming the module comprises forming a housing for a non-redundant cable modem termination system.

27. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein forming the second card cage comprises forming first slots and second slots in the second card cage.

28. (New) The method of claim 25, wherein inserting the third and fourth electronic modules into the second card cage comprises inserting the third and fourth electronic modules into first slots of the card cage and inserting the switch/relay into the

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Serial No. 09/995,262

Title: ADAPTIVE MODULE FOR HOUSINGS

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Attorney Docket No. 100.362US01

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second card cage comprises inserting circuit boards of the switch/relay into second slots of the second card cage.

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